REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the following comments.

Applicants note that replacement Figures 3 and 4 are submitted herewith to respond to the objection of the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Claims 1-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hinrichs et al. (USPN 4,515,545) in view of Kenney et al. (USPN 6,445,969). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Hinrichs discloses an automated system for controlling the curing process of structures formed of fiber-reinforced composite material in an autoclave. However, Hinrichs does not disclose that a "remote site has the ability to change programming of the process controller on a real time basis" as required by independent claims 1, 10, and 19.

The Examiner referred to col. 5, lines 40+ of Hinrichs for the feature of where the remote site has the ability to change programming of the process controller on a real-time basis. In reply, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to col. 5, lines 36-40 of Hinrichs where it is disclosed that "the stored software includes a process control algorithm which directs the system through the procedural sequence summarized above, making the necessary comparisons and computations as required in each step of the sequence" (emphasis added). While Hinrichs suggests that the autoclave temperature and pressure controlling mechanisms can be controlled and therefore changed according to the according to the algorithm (col. 5, lines 40-45), nowhere does Hinrichs state that the algorithm itself can be changed. Accordingly, Applicants assert that Hinrichs does not disclose or suggest the ability to actually change the process control algorithm used therein, much less change it on a real-time basis. Therefore, Hinrichs does not disclose or suggest the ability to change programming of the process controller on a real time basis as required by claims 1, 10, and 19.

Kenney does not cure the deficiencies of Hinrichs. Kenney discloses a statistical process control integration system for use in the manufacture of printed circuit boards. However,

Kenney does not disclose that a "remote site has the ability to change programming of the process controller on a real time basis" as required by independent claims 1, 10, and 19. Therefore, the combination of Hinrichs and Kenney fail to teach or suggest the invention of claims 1, 10, or 19. As claims 2-9 and 28-29 are dependent on claim 1, claims 11-18 and 30-31 are dependent on claim 10, and claims 20-27 and 32-33 are dependent on claim 19, they are also not taught or suggested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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